

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 14, 2005, in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Cook, Perkins, Robbins, Smoot, Taniguchi, Tookey, and Chairperson McGee.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Park Services Administrator Wilson and Senior Recreation Supervisor Kelso.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Senior Recreation Supervisor Kelso led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Smoot moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Robbins seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 9, 2005

Commissioner Perkins recommended that "Park Services Administrator Wilson" substitute the word "He" at the beginning of paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 on page 5, Item 9A.

MOTION: Commissioner Cook moved for the approval of the November 9, 2005 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tookey and passed by unanimous voice vote approval (with Commissioner Smoot abstaining).

6. OLD BUSINESS

6A. WILSON PARK SKATEBOARD PARK UPDATE

Senior Recreation Supervisor Kelso reported on the temporary closure of the Wilson Skateboard Park to repair the ramp system and ensure the safety of park patrons. He distributed photographs showing the ramp surfaces and infrastructures that

were compromised, most likely due to last year's unprecedented rain. He stated that recreation supervisors and park maintenance personnel examined the entire skateboard park to assess the extent of the damage and it was determined by the City's Risk Manager to close the park until necessary repairs have been made.

He reported that Park Services staff has spent the past two weeks replacing the infrastructure of the park's most heavily used ramps consisting of Phase I and Phase II. He stated that Phase I was complete and that Phase II would be completed by the end of the week, with reopening of the repaired portions on December 19, 2005 in time for winter school break. He noted that the park would be open Monday through Friday, with three two-hour sessions, at a reduced rate. He stated that Phase III, involving a box pyramid course that is not used as extensively, would not be repaired at this time. He advised that staff was waiting to determine how important Phase III was to skaters before making a decision how to use the area.

Responding to Commissioner Smoot's inquiry, Senior Recreation Supervisor Kelso stated that the Phase III area would be fenced off with chain link and closed off to access.

When Commissioner Robbins expressed concern that the fenced off portion would be an eyesore, Senior Recreation Supervisor Kelso assured him that a determination would be made within a few months and, if it was decided that the course was obsolete, the structure would be removed.

In response to Chair McGee's inquiry, he stated that Phase I was the most popular portion of the park.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Kelso noted that the replacement materials were much higher quality product at a lower price.

Responding to Commissioner Tookey's inquiry, he stated that staff was considering the possibility of using the Phase III large open space for free-style skating with shade.

Park Services Administrator Wilson explained that the interior plywood used in the original construction was not suitable for outside use and that there was no provision for water drainage. He advised that exterior plywood, silicone, ventilation, and felt tarpaper were being used for the reconstruction and that there would be a meeting on-site on December 15, 2005 for further assessment.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7A. DISCUSS JOINT MEETING WITH THE LIBRARY COMMISSION

Chairperson McGee distributed a letter dated December 14, 2005 from Kathryn Roberts, Chairperson of the Torrance Library Commission, inviting the Parks and Recreation Commission to participate on an ad hoc committee to discuss joint programming opportunities between the two Commissions.

Following a brief discussion, Chairperson McGee appointed Programs Committee members, consisting of Commissioners Robbins, Smoot, and Cook, to attend

the first joint meeting, with the possibility of rotating Commissioners for subsequent meetings.

MOTION: Commissioner Perkins moved that the Parks and Recreation Commission Programs Committee attend the first joint meeting with the Library Commission ad hoc committee to discuss joint programming opportunities. Commissioner Tookey seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

8. STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

8A. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

No report.

8B. FACILITIES COMMITTEE

No report.

8C. PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

No report.

9. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

9A. PARK SERVICES DIVISION

Park Services Administrator Wilson stated that the Division has been very busy at the Skateboard Park but has also replaced fencing at El Nido Park and replaced tables at Sunnyside Park. He stated that there have been several soccer tournaments at the parks and that youth basketball season sign ups are currently underway.

In response to Chairperson McGee's inquiry, he advised that landings and platforms have been installed for the Wilson Park universally-accessible tree house, with an anticipated completion date in January 2006.

9B. RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

Senior Recreation Supervisor Kelso discussed upcoming events that include Breakfast with Santa and the Rose Parade float decoration.

Responding to Commissioner Smoot's inquiry, he stated that the City has a policy to replace trees that are removed.

10. ORALS

10A. The Commission welcomed Torrance Youth Council member Nicole Hartig from West High School.

10B. Commissioners and staff wished each other a happy and safe holiday season.

10C. Commissioner Perkins initiated a brief discussion regarding the eucalyptus trees on Torrance Boulevard. He stated that he enjoyed running in the Turkey Trot and commented on the high number of participants this year.

10D. Commissioner Smoot stated that she enjoyed attending the Turkey Trot. She expressed safety concerns about the number of dogs present at the event and suggested that receptacles and bags be provided.

10E. Commissioner Robbins stated that he also attended the Turkey Trot and noted the food booth figures for the Saturday market at Farmers' Market.

10F. Chairperson McGee stated that he enjoyed participating in the Turkey Trot and was impressed with the number of participants.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 7:40 p.m., Commissioner Tookey moved to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to January 11, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smoot and, hearing no objection, Chairperson McGee so ordered.

Approved as Submitted January 11, 2006 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
